



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Raised Bill No. 6692

LCO No. 5045

05045_____GAE

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT TOWN CLERKS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 2-30a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

3 (a) At such time as a proposed constitutional amendment and its
4 concomitant ballot question is approved by the General Assembly for
5 presentation to the electors of the state for their consideration at a
6 general election, the Office of Legislative Research shall prepare a
7 concise explanatory text as to the content and purpose of the proposed
8 constitutional amendment subject to the approval of the joint standing
9 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
10 constitutional amendments. Upon such approval, the Secretary of the
11 State shall cause such proposed amendment and such explanatory text
12 to be printed and transmitted to the town clerk in each town in the
13 state in sufficient supply for public distribution.

14 (b) The Secretary of the State shall print the explanations of

15 proposed constitutional amendments, as required by subsection (a) of
16 this section, on posters of a size to be determined by said secretary and
17 shall mail at least three such posters for every polling place within a
18 town, to the [town clerk] registrars of voters. Said [clerk] registrars
19 shall cause at least three such posters to be posted at each polling place
20 at which electors shall be voting on such proposed constitutional
21 amendments. Any posters received by [a town clerk] the registrars in
22 excess of the number required by this subsection to be so posted may
23 be displayed by said [clerk at his] registrars at their discretion at
24 locations which are frequented by the public. No expenditure of state
25 funds shall be made to influence electors to vote for or against any
26 such proposed constitutional amendment.

27 Sec. 2. Section 9-15a of the general statutes is repealed and the
28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

29 (a) The board for admission of electors in each town shall consist of
30 the town clerk, assistant town clerk, as applicable, and the selectmen,
31 provided the legislative body of any town may, at any time, except
32 during the period of eight weeks prior to a regular election, vote to
33 change the membership of such board to consist of (1) the town clerk,
34 assistant town clerk, as applicable, the selectmen and the registrars of
35 voters or (2) the town clerk, assistant town clerk, as applicable, and the
36 registrars of voters. For the purposes of this section, the term
37 "registrars of voters", in a town where there are different registrars of
38 voters for different voting districts, means the registrars of voters in
39 the voting district in which, at the last-preceding election, the
40 presiding officer for the purpose of declaring the result of the vote of
41 the whole town was the moderator.

42 (b) Any member of the board for the admission of electors in any
43 town who finds that he is unable to attend a meeting of the board shall
44 designate another elected officer of such town to act for him by filing a
45 statement of such designation in writing in the office of the town clerk
46 at any time prior to the opening of the meeting, provided, if an

47 assistant town clerk is available, he shall serve in the absence or
48 inability of the town clerk and, if the deputy registrar of voters is
49 available, he shall serve in the absence or inability of his registrar.

50 (c) A quorum of the board for the admission of electors shall consist
51 of a bare majority of the members of such board. An assistant town
52 clerk or a deputy registrar or any other town officer designated by, and
53 acting for, a member of such board pursuant to the provisions of
54 subsection (b) of this section shall be included as a member of such
55 board for purposes of ascertaining the existence of a quorum.

56 (d) This section shall supersede any inconsistent provision of any
57 charter or special act.

58 Sec. 3. Section 9-42a of the general statutes is repealed and the
59 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

60 [(a) As used in this section, the term "municipal office" shall be
61 construed as defined in section 9-372, except that such term shall not
62 include the municipal offices of state senator and state representative.]

63 [(b)] (a) On the written request of any elector who identifies himself
64 to the satisfaction of the registrars of voters, such registrars shall make
65 any changes in the name of such elector as it appears on the registry
66 list, provided such elector furnishes reasonable evidence to the
67 registrars that the name as changed is a lawful name of such elector.
68 No such change shall be made between the Tuesday of the fifth week
69 before a regular election and the day of such election.

70 [(c)] (b) No such change in the name of a candidate at a primary
71 shall affect the name of the candidate as it appears on the primary
72 ballot. [unless the elector is a candidate for town committee or
73 municipal office and the change is made not later than the twenty-
74 ninth day preceding the day of the primary.] No such change in the
75 name of a major party candidate at an election shall affect the name of
76 such candidate as it appears on the election ballot. [unless the elector is

77 a candidate for municipal office and the change is made not later than
78 the fifty-fifth day preceding the day of such election.] No such change
79 in the name of a minor party candidate or a nominating petition
80 candidate for any office at an election shall affect the name of such
81 candidate as it appears on the election ballot unless the change is made
82 not later than the fifty-fifth day preceding the day of the election.

83 Sec. 4. Section 9-232j of the general statutes is repealed and the
84 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

85 The moderator of the election in each voting district shall appear at
86 the office of the [town clerk] registrar of voters not later than eight
87 o'clock p.m. of the day before an election for federal office. At such
88 time, the [town clerk] registrar of voters shall provide a provisional
89 ballot packet to such moderator or moderators. Each packet shall
90 include: (1) The appropriate number of provisional ballots for federal
91 office provided by the Secretary of the State, which shall be equal to
92 not less than one per cent of the number of electors who are eligible to
93 vote in the voting district served by the moderator, or such other
94 number as the municipal clerk and the registrars agree is sufficient to
95 protect electors' voting rights, (2) the appropriate number of serially-
96 numbered envelopes prescribed by the Secretary, (3) a provisional
97 ballot inventory form, (4) a provisional ballot depository envelope, and
98 (5) other necessary forms prescribed by the Secretary.

99 Sec. 5. Section 9-461 of the general statutes is repealed and the
100 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):

101 Not later than the seventh day following the date set for the primary
102 for nomination at any election at which a municipal office is to be
103 filled, the clerk of the municipality in which such election is to be held
104 shall file with the Secretary of the State a list of the candidates of each
105 party for the municipal offices to be filled at such election nominated
106 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. Such list shall be on a
107 form provided by the Secretary of the State and shall indicate the name
108 and address of each candidate and the office and term for which each

109 candidate has been nominated, and, except for major party candidates
 110 for the municipal offices of state senator or state representative, shall
 111 contain the certification of such municipal clerk that he has compared
 112 the name of each such candidate with the candidate's name as [it
 113 appears on the registry list] the candidate authorizes it to appear on
 114 the ballot, pursuant to the certificate filed in accordance with
 115 subsection (c) of section 9-391 or the statement of consent filed in
 116 accordance with section 9-409, as applicable, and has verified and
 117 corrected the same. In the case of major party candidates for the
 118 municipal offices of state senator or state representative, such list shall
 119 contain the certification of the [town] municipal clerk that he has
 120 compared the name of each such candidate with the candidate's name
 121 as the candidate has authorized, on the certificate or statement of
 122 consent filed under subsection (b) of section 9-391 or section 9-409, his
 123 name to appear, and has verified and corrected the same. Such list
 124 shall include a statement of the total number of candidates for which
 125 each elector may vote for each office and term at such election as set
 126 forth in the list or amendment or supplement thereto filed with the
 127 Secretary of the State under section 9-254. After the filing of such list of
 128 candidates, the clerk of the municipality shall forthwith notify the
 129 Secretary of the State of any errors in such list or of any changes in
 130 such list provided for in section 9-329a or 9-460.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	2-30a
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	9-15a
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	9-42a
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	9-232j
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2009</i>	9-461

Statement of Purpose:

To make certain changes to the election laws which affect town clerks and conform to current practice.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]